



Office of the President

REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA FOR HIS EXCELLENCY IMATA KABUA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

His Excellency Iroijlaplap Imata Kabua was elected President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands on January 13, 1997 following the sudden passing of his cousin, the late Iroijlaplap President Amata Kabua, in December 1996. President Imata Kabua is both Head of Government and Head of State.

President Imata Kabua is the current serving chairman of the South Pacific Forum.

Born on May 20, 1943 on Bwaka, Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands, Mr. Kabua first attended the Ebeye Public Elementary School in Kwajalein and later went to Marshall Christian Elementary and Laura Intermediate School, Majuro. Mr. Kabua attended the Kuali Technical School, Honolulu Christian College and later Ventura College, California, USA.

President Kabua began his public service career as principal of the Ebeye Christian Elementary School. Later, he served as Postmaster of Ebeye Post Office.

Mr. Kabua's political career began when he first served in 1976 as senator to the Nitijela under the US Trusteeship, followed by his consecutive election as delegate to the first and second Marshall Islands Constitutional Conventions (MICC) in 1978 and 1990 respectively. In 1994, he was elected to the third MICC as delegate Iroij from Ralik. He then served as senator to the Nitijela under the Constitutional Government in 1979, until 1996 when he was appointed as Minister without Portfolio for the Ralik Chain.

As Iroijlaplap, Mr. Kabua is an active leader in cultural affairs. He is presently one of the four major Iroijlaplaps from the Ralik Chain in the Marshall Islands.

President Kabua continues to lead and guide the development work on his constituent island atoll, Kwajalein, where in the past he served in a range of key positions including as president of the Kwajalein Atoll Corporation (KAC), chairman for Kwajalein Atoll Development Authority (KADA), and chairman for Kwajalein Atoll Joint Utility Resource (KAJUR).

President Kabua's hobbies include tennis, chess, table tennis, checkers and fishing. In 1969, Mr. Kabua was awarded a gold medal each for volleyball and table tennis at the 1969 Micronesian Olympic Games in Saipan.

President Kabua is married to the First Lady Miromi Kenou Kabua. They have 8 children.

President Kabua is a member of the Protestant Church.

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